



Patent Application
Docket No. USF-T154X
Serial No. 10/024,019

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Jon McClelland Lockard
Art Unit : 1647
Applicants : Thomas P. Loughran, Jr., Ravi Kothapalli
Serial No. : 10/024,019
Filed : December 21, 2001
For : Sphingosine 1-Phosphate Receptor Gene, SPPR

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF THOMAS P. LOUGHRAN, JR., M.D., UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Sir:

I, Thomas P. Loughran, Jr., M.D., of Penn State College of Medicine, hereby declare:

THAT, my *curriculum vitae* is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

THAT, I am a named inventor on the above-referenced patent application;

THAT, I have read and understood the specification and claims of the subject application and the Office Action dated March 6, 2006;


AND, being thus duly qualified, do further declare:

Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a figure showing a Western blot of lysates from peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) from patients suffering from large granular lymphocyte (LGL) leukemia (labeled LGL1 and LGL2) and from normal individuals (labeled N1 and N2), along with the materials and methods utilized. The immunoblot shows marked over-expression of S1P5 polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:3) (also referred to in the subject patent application as SPPR) in patients suffering from LGL leukemia. This is consistent with the results of the microarray analysis provided in the subject application, which show up-regulation of S1P5 mRNA in LGL leukemia patients. It is reasonable to conclude that an elevated level of S1P5 mRNA or protein in PBMC correlates with LGL leukemia, and is useful as a diagnostic marker of the disease.

The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or of any patent issuing thereon.

Further declarant sayeth naught.

Signed:


Thomas P. Loughran, Jr., M.D.

Date:

8/28/06